GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:27
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2003
ATOMIC POWER GENERATION
B.K. PARTHASARATHI;GANTA SRINIVASA RAO

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a very small portion of total power is being generated from atomic energy;

(b) if so, the comparative position of India in power production from atomic energy vis-a-vis other countries;

(c) whether atomic power plants in the country are less-efficient; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTIC PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER O STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE):

(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.27 FOR ANSWER ON 19.2 REGARDING ATOMIC POWER GENERATION BY SHRI GANTA SREENIVASA RAO.

(a) The present nuclear power capacity in the country is 2720 MWe, which is 2.6.% of the total installed capacity in the country from all sources. During the financial year 2001-2002, the electricity generated from nuclear power stations was about 19400 Million Units(MUs) which is about 3.7% of the total electricity generated in the country.

(b) In terms of the absolute net electricity generation, India produced 19200 MUs of electricityfrom nuclear power stations in the calendar year 2001. During the same period, the countries that produced between 10000 to 20000 MUs, were Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia and South Africa. Further, countries like Argentina, Armenia, Mexico, Netherlands, Pakistan, Romania and Slovenia produced less than 10000 MUs of electricity from nuclear power during the corresponding period. Some of the developed countries have much larger nuclear electricity generation and a relatively larger nuclear electricity share (i.e. France 77%, Japan 34%, Russia 15%, UK 22% and USA 20%). The world average nuclear electricity share is about 16%.

(c) The nuclear power stations in the country are performing very efficiently. Though the share in terms of installed capacity is 2.6%, the generation share is 3.7%. This is because of the ` higher than national Plant Load Factor(PLF)` at which the nucler power stations are operated. During the year 2001-02, NPCIL`s nuclear power stations registered a Plant Load Factor(PLF) of about 85% as compared to the national average of about 70%. During the peiod 1.4.2002 to 31.1.2003 also, the average PLF of NPCIL`s plants has been about 89 %. This also compares very well with the world median of about 86.1%.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.